

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a deliberate, disgusting smear that is so obvious that if you have the power, I implore you to stop it in its tracks. This is not the kind of free speech or freedom of the press that our Founding Fathers fought and died for. It makes a mockery of democracy.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.